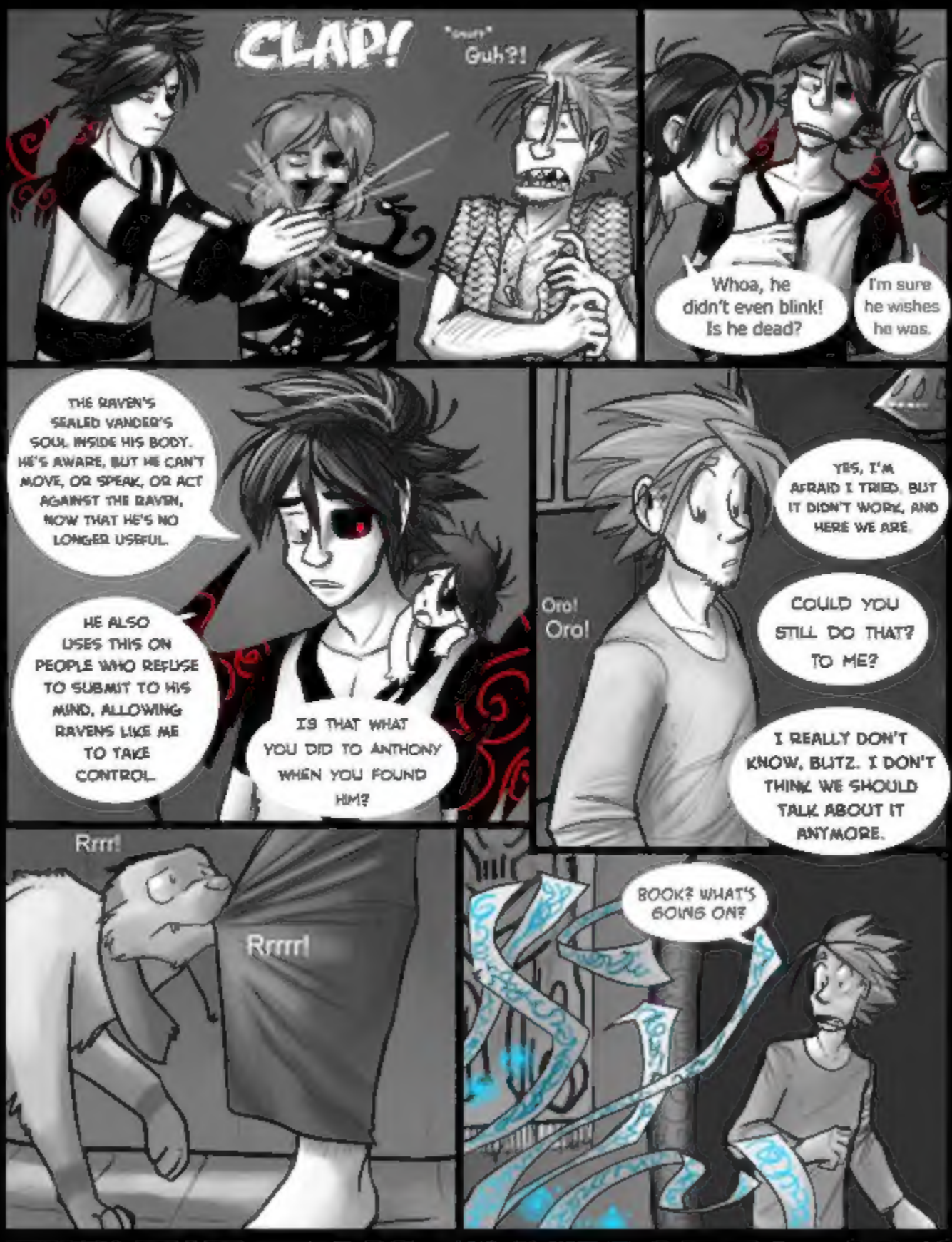
FWOOSH!
"HACK!"
Snort!
RILEY! IF YOU HURT HIM, SO HELP ME-
HE'S ASLEEP. NOT THAT IT WILL MATTER IN TWO MINUTES.
THUMP!
CAPTAIN VANDER, YOU'RE WORKING FOR THE RAVEN?! DON'T DO THIS! WE CAN HELP YOU, WE CAN STOP HIM!
Oro!
Ororo!
NOBODY CAN STOP THE RAVEN. NOT ME, NOT YOU. THE ONLY THING WE CAN DO IS TRY AND SLOW HIM DOWN.
ONCE THE BOOK AND THE READER ARE BURNED TO ASH, RAVEN WON'T BE ABLE TO FIND THE HEIRS.
tick
tick
tick
tick
NOBODY WANTS TO DIE, TUFF, BUT IN THE END IT WILL BE BETTER THIS WAY. I AM TRULY SORRY.
NO! CAPTAIN, HE HAS THE OTHER HALF PLEASE LET ME TALK- JUSTDON'TPULLTHAT STOP! STOP! STOP!
SHING!
tick
tick
tick
INK

SPLAT!
?!!
MMPH!
MNPH!
Don't struggle, you're making them hungry.
If you think more death is the way to stop the Raven, he's had a hold on your mind for far too long.
SIMON, WITH FRIENDS LIKE THESE I'M STARTING TO FEEL NORMAL.
Despite appearances, we're among friends.
SH... SHADOWMANDYRS!
It's okay, Tuff, I'm the one in control this time. When their queen died they had no place to go, so they returned to the person they had called home.

WHAT ARE YOU SAYING, RAVEN? THAT THE RAVEN WANTED VANDER TO REBEL?
HE WANTED VANDER TO THINK HE WAS REBELLING. THE RAVEN CAN'T HAVE COMPLETE CONTROL OVER ANYONE.
scoooot
THUMP!
HE CAN, HOWEVER, TAKE A GOOD MAN'S URGE TO FIGHT BACK AND TURN IT INTO MURDER.
ARE OUR LIVES REALLY THAT IMPORTANT? I'M JUST GLAD NOBODY GOT SERIOUSLY HURT.
Sorry to ruin your mood, Tuff, but that's not true. The guards have retrieved Walf's body.
We wouldn't have been able to identify the murderer, except that Vander left his spearblade as a grave marker.
And in the end The Raven would profit more from our deaths than he would lose from murdering half the book.
Well, at least he felt guilty about what he had done. Maybe there's still some hope left for Vander. We could help him!
THAT SOUNDS TOO DANGEROUS. WE SHOULD LOCK HIM UP WHERE HE CAN'T HURT ANY MORE INNOCENT PEOPLE.
IT DOESN'T MATTER ANYMORE WHAT YOU DO TO HIM. THE RAVEN'S SOUL-SEALED HIM.


CLAP!
"crunch"
Guh?!
Whoa, he didn't even blink! Is he dead?
I'm sure he wishes he was.
THE RAVEN'S SEALED VANDER'S SOUL INSIDE HIS BODY. HE'S AWARE, BUT HE CAN'T MOVE, OR SPEAK, OR ACT AGAINST THE RAVEN, NOW THAT HE'S NO LONGER USEFUL.
HE ALSO USES THIS ON PEOPLE WHO REFUSE TO SUBMIT TO HIS MIND, ALLOWING RAVENS LIKE ME TO TAKE CONTROL.
IS THAT WHAT YOU DID TO ANTHONY WHEN YOU FOUND HIM?
YES, I'M AFRAID I TRIED, BUT IT DIDN'T WORK, AND HERE WE ARE.
Oro! Oro!
COULD YOU STILL DO THAT? TO ME?
I REALLY DON'T KNOW, BUTZ. I DON'T THINK WE SHOULD TALK ABOUT IT ANYMORE.
Rrrr!
Rrrrr!
BOOK? WHAT'S GOING ON?

Ow... Ow.... stupid arm.
That's what I hate about going sharky. I forget all my injuries and only hurt myself more.
Come on, sharkman. Let's see if there are any bandages left.
Hey there, Blitz. Why so quiet tonight?
CREDENZA... I'M SCARED.
Of what? We're safe for now.
I KNOW, BUT I DON'T KNOW. I'M SCARED OF RAVEN.
I WISH I SHARED MY HEAD WITH A NICE SOUL LIKE YOURS.
I'M SCARED HE'LL SOMEDAY DO A SOUL SEAL TO ME, BECAUSE HE DOESN'T LIKE ME. DO YOU THINK HE WOULD DO THAT TO ME?

Raven...
...Raven is dangerous, it would be stupid to think otherwise. He was born an evil spirit, we can't change that.
But he can.
I believe he genuinely wants to change, and that's why we can trust him. He's not perfect. He wouldn't be truly human if he was.
YOU KNEW I WAS HERE THE WHOLE TIME, DIDN'T YOU?
And what if I did?
ALL THOSE THINGS YOU SAID, IT WAS JUST BECAUSE I WAS LISTENING TOO. AS SOON AS I LEAVE YOU CAN TELL BLITZ WHAT YOU REALLY THINK.
I said what I said because it's the truth.
And I hope you can trust us enough to hear the truth face to face.
You're a good human, Raven, as much as you may deny it.
And I think you have what it takes to someday be a good man.

Yawn
Whoa...
What on earth?
Tuff?
Tuff, what's wrong?

Tuff, you always go to water when something is wrong.
Don't start wigging out on us now, things are actually starting to go right for once.
We're together, we're safe. It's going to be okay.
Right?
Right?
THE NEXT HEIR IS IN QUILLOTIA CITY.
WE'RE GOING TO QUILLOTIA.
WE'RE GOING HOME.
TO BE CONTINUED